

In the claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 12, 13, 15 and 20 as follows:

C1
1. (Twice Amended) A bell having a plurality of modal frequencies, wherein the first three of said frequencies, at minimum, are substantially in an harmonic sequence.

2. (Thrice Amended) A bell as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first three frequencies are due to modes with no ring nodes.

12. (Twice Amended) A bell according to claim 4 wherein the side portion is generally tapered.

C2
13. (Twice Amended) A bell having a plurality of modal frequencies, wherein the first four of said frequencies, at minimum, are substantially in an harmonic sequence.

C3
15. (Twice Amended) A method for designing a bell shape for a bell having a plurality of model frequencies, wherein the first three of said frequencies, at minimum, are substantially in an harmonic sequence, the method comprising the steps of selecting an initial bell shape and using the initial bell shape in an optimization procedure for modifying the bell shape such that said first three frequencies are substantially in an harmonic sequence.

20. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 15 wherein the optimization procedure comprises the steps of:

- C4
Contd
- (a) setting the current bell shape to the selected initial bell shape;
 - (b) selecting one of the first three frequencies to be tuned as a current objective;

- C14
end
- (c) selecting a desired value for the current objective to attain or a desired range for the current objective to fall within;
 - (d) modifying the current bell shape in accordance with an optimization method, the optimization method being to cause the value of the current objective to move towards the desired value or range;
 - (e) repeating step (d) as many times as necessary for the value of the current objective to become substantially equal to the desired value or for the objective to fall within the desired range;
 - (f) if the at least first three frequencies to be tuned are not substantially in an harmonic sequence, selecting one of the at least three frequencies to be tuned as the current objective;
 - (g) repeating steps (c) to (e) in relation to the current objective, subject to a suitably chosen constraint or constraints to cause at least one of the frequencies to be tuned to approach or attain a desired value or desired frequency ratio; and
 - (h) repeating steps (f) and (g) until the at least first three frequencies are substantially in an harmonic sequence.
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Please add the following new Claims 24 and 25:

- C15
Cont'd
24. (New) A bell having a plurality of modal frequencies comprised of means for producing the first at least two frequencies of the plurality substantially in an harmonic sequence and means for producing the third frequency of the plurality substantially in an harmonic sequence.